

Pye Bank CE Primary School Collective Worship Policy



SEPTEMBER 2021

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT PYE BANK C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Introduction

Pye Bank C of E Primary School in Sheffield, caters for pupils aged from 3 to 11. This collective worship policy has been designed with our school population in mind and is written in accordance with guidance from Sheffield's SACRE.

The school has consulted with staff, pupils and parents.

2. Our Context

The school serves a very diverse community with its key ethnic groupings with 97% of its children being from minority ethnic groups. Its main ethnic groupings are Somali (26%), Yemeni (21%) Pakistani (12%) and Eastern European (11%) the majority of whom are Slovak Roma and new arrivals. Approximately 5% of children across school are newly arrived to the country.



The vast majority of children are Muslim and have strong faith. They are proud to be part of a faith school and are committed to the school's Christian Values. Our context is seen as providing us with many opportunities and presents us with many reasons to celebrate. Collective Worship is a very important aspect of our daily lives and our work as a school. It helps us to develop trust, respect, reflective thinking and tolerance within our community.

Collective Worship is viewed by all as a special time and there is a high level of respect shown by children before, during and when leaving Collective Worship.

3. Aims

Our collective worship strengthens the community ethos of our school. It is planned to enable all pupils of any religion or none to take part as appropriate. The aim of our collective worship is to:

- ❖ *make our values explicit and develop pupils' thinking so they are able to explore their own beliefs and motivations*
- ❖ *promote respect for the beliefs, practices & values of others within the school & the community & an opportunity for pupils to explore & evaluate their own beliefs, whether religious or not, in relation to those of others.*
- ❖ *help pupils develop their own spirituality and foster sensitivity to the beliefs, practices and values of others*
- ❖ *build a sense of community so pupils consider their place in the community and what it means to be a citizen*
- ❖ *Develop a sense of belonging within every child, so all understand their place in our school.*
- ❖ *help pupils know and celebrate who they are and who they might become*
- ❖ *mark occasions of celebration and commemoration*
- ❖ *provide quiet time for reflection upon the fundamental questions of existence*
- ❖ *encourage hope, aspiration, awe, wonder & develop self-understanding, empathy, compassion and wisdom*



All present (pupils, staff and visitors) should feel valued whatever their faith or beliefs with no assumption of a shared religious commitment. Collective worship will acknowledge and respect the responses of individual pupils and provide opportunities for them to express their feelings, delight at life, wonder, and joy.

4. Organisation

The school provides a daily act of collective worship which is of a broadly Christian character and which draws inspiration from a range of faiths, beliefs and traditions. Pupils should be prepared to participate, listen, watch, discuss, answer questions, sing and share in quiet times.

- ❖ On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, children experience a mix of school led, Clergy led worship and Class Collective Worship
- ❖ On Wednesday Children engage in an act of worship through singing together in key Stages.
- ❖ On Friday we meet to celebrate special achievements during the week and we end the week with our school prayer.
- ❖ Each day there is a brief time of reflection to end the day.

Time table for 2021-22

	What?	When and Who?	Where?
Monday	School led Collective Worship	• Years 1-2 12:50pm	Lavender Field
Monday	School led Collective Worship	• Years 3- 6 11:55am	Lavender Field
Tuesday	Class Led Collective Worship	• Years 1-2 12:50pm	Classroom
Tuesday	Class Led Collective Worship	• Years 3- 6 11:55am	Classroom
Wednesday	Singing Assemblies	• FS: 12.30pm • KS1 12:50am • KS2 11:55am	Lavender Field
Thursday	School or Clergy led Collective Worship	• Years 1-2 12:50pm	Lavender Field
Thursday	School or Clergy led Collective Worship	• Years 3- 6 11:55am	Lavender Field
Friday	Gold award	• KS1 12:50pm • KS2 11:55am	Lavender Field

Usually we gather at a point during the morning and worship lasts for approximately 15 minutes. There is a special focus area in the Lavender Field which helps children to reflect and focus. Each class has a Collective Worship box in the classroom. This provides a focal point in each classroom during this time. Staff attend whole school collective worship with their class and take part in a proactive way.

4. Content

The content of collective worship is planned on around a theme to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. The content provides opportunities for reflection and for celebration and recognition of each pupil’s potential. The theme is often strongly linked to the school Values which lead our work. The acts of worship will:

- Be inclusive - an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.
- Be Spiritual and encourage reflection.
- Have a sense of occasion and offer something class lessons don’t.
- Meet the needs of our school community.

Class based collective worship will feel different to RE lessons. They should be modelled on the approach taken to whole school Collective Worship. Limited resources should be used and a simple model to introduce the focus, use of a hook to support reflection- a stimulus item, short film clip, song or story- and a time to reflect and prayer. They should be approximately 10 minutes long and should be marked through the use of a candle, or children gather on the carpet. Use of silence is important.



At specific points during the year there are special collective worships which are Multi-Faith in nature. Parents are invited to these and they are a central part of our vision. Although all faiths are recognised and valued, the school community comes together for key religious festivals within the Christian and the Muslim Calendar. All children take part in prayers during these collective worships.

5. Evaluation

The school values the impact of collective worship on the wellbeing of all members of the school community and ensures that collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated by senior leadership, governors, parents, pupils and members of our Worship Committee.

6. Resources

The school budget includes sufficient funding per annum for resourcing collective worship. Visual aids (artefacts, posters and books) are purchased as required. Staff CPD is now provided to help with delivering quality collective worship.

7. Withdrawal

Parents may withdraw their children from collective worship but we believe our collective worship is inclusive and beneficial for all pupils so it is hoped that no one will be withdrawn. Contact the Head Teacher to discuss any concerns.

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